



27 MAR 1968

The Honorable J. W. Fulbright, Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Mr. Chairman:

We have examined with care your letter of 7 March as well as Mr. Nitze's responses to your questions. We agree with Mr. Nitze's observation that any answers, given the nature of the evidence on total enemy personnel strength, must at best, be considered tenuous and subject to continued revision.

For this reason, CIA and DOD intelligence analysts are in continuous consultation on these questions and the complex nature of the evidence and methodology bearing on them. Moreover, CIA participated in the review of order of battle estimates last fall, to which Mr. Nitze alludes in his response to your first question; the estimative techniques and the set of figures resulting from them as reported by MACV and Secretary McNamara generally reflected the Agency's view at the time the revision was undertaken.

Sincerely,

~~W. A.~~ Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

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28 MAR 1968 25X1

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